

override. If it is overridden, how can we override that unless there is funding to provide for advocacy agencies? We had the Morrill Hall, the Kearney State improvements just passed. Where is additional funding going to come from to provide for that construction? I'm not saying that this amendment, the \$4.3 million that this amendment would generate will cover all of these things. What I am saying is it will cover some of the programs.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: And some of these programs are very important and we need the funds to pay for those programs. It seems to me that we, as a Legislature, need to present and pass a balanced budget. If we are going to support these programs, and I think they are very worthy programs, we need to provide funding to pay for them. And if that funding is provided, then we can submit that to the Governor's office for consideration. If the Governor's office chooses to veto that program, then let the Governor's office do that. It can make that decision. But, it seems to me that it's our obligation, if we are going to support these very worthy programs, we need to provide some kind of funding for them. And I think this is a very fair, equitable and reasonable way to generate funds. It asks the people who are most able to pay for income tax to support state government to do so and it maintains a principle of progressivity that has been a part of our state income tax code as well as the federal income tax code for many years.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Abboud, please, then Senator Smith.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I was no fan of LB 773 when it was finally enacted into law. I had different reasons than Senator McFarland did in not being as supportive of the income change as other members. My belief was that it did provide for a small tax increase and that was my principal objection with the change in the income tax system. But my feeling toward this particular amendment is such that I have strong opposition to it. I recall yesterday spending hours over LB 775, an economic development package, to attract businesses into the state. We spent days, literally days in this Legislature fighting over how to get corporations to come into the State of Nebraska or to have those corporations that are currently here stay in the State of Nebraska. This goes against everything that we have done up to this point this year. This